



# **ARMY SUPPORT AND CONCERN FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY**

**By Active Army Soldiers**

**Results from the *Sample Survey of Military  
Personnel***



# Support and Concern Topics



**Active Army Soldiers (2LT-COL, WO1-CW5, PV2-CSM) were asked:**

**“How satisfied are you with the support and concern the Army has for you?”**

**“How satisfied are you with the support and concern the Army has for your family?”**

**“In general, how well has your family adjusted to the demands of being an ‘Army family’?”**

**“How supportive is your spouse of you making a career of the Army?”**



## Key Findings - 1



- 45% of officers and 33% of enlisted Soldiers reported in spring 2008 that they were “Satisfied/Very satisfied” with the support and concern the Army has for them (Slides 7-9).
- Among officers, the difference between 45% in spring 2008 and 51% in fall 2004 is statistically significant.
- Among enlisted, the 33% reported in 2007 is similar to the levels reported in fall 2003 through fall 2007.



## Key Findings - 2



- 40% of officers and 32% of enlisted Soldiers reported in spring 2008 that they were “Satisfied/Very satisfied” with the support and concern the Army has for their family (Slides 10-12).
- Among officers, the level of satisfaction has been decreasing after reaching 48% in fall 2001 and 49% in spring 2002, but has remained steady since spring 2005.
- Among enlisted Soldiers, the levels of satisfaction with support for their families have remained relatively steady since fall 2002.





## Key Findings - 3

- 73% of officers and 58% of enlisted Soldiers reported in spring 2008 that their family has adjusted well (responses 1-3 on a 7-point scale) to the demands of being an “Army family” (Slides 13-15).
  - Among officers, the difference between 73% in spring 2008 and 78% in spring 2005 is statistically significant.
  - The average level among officers from fall 2001 through fall 2007 is 77%.
  - Among enlisted Soldiers, the difference between 63% in fall 2004 and 58% in spring 2008 is statistically significant.
  - The average level among enlisted Soldiers from fall 2001 through fall 2007 is 58%.

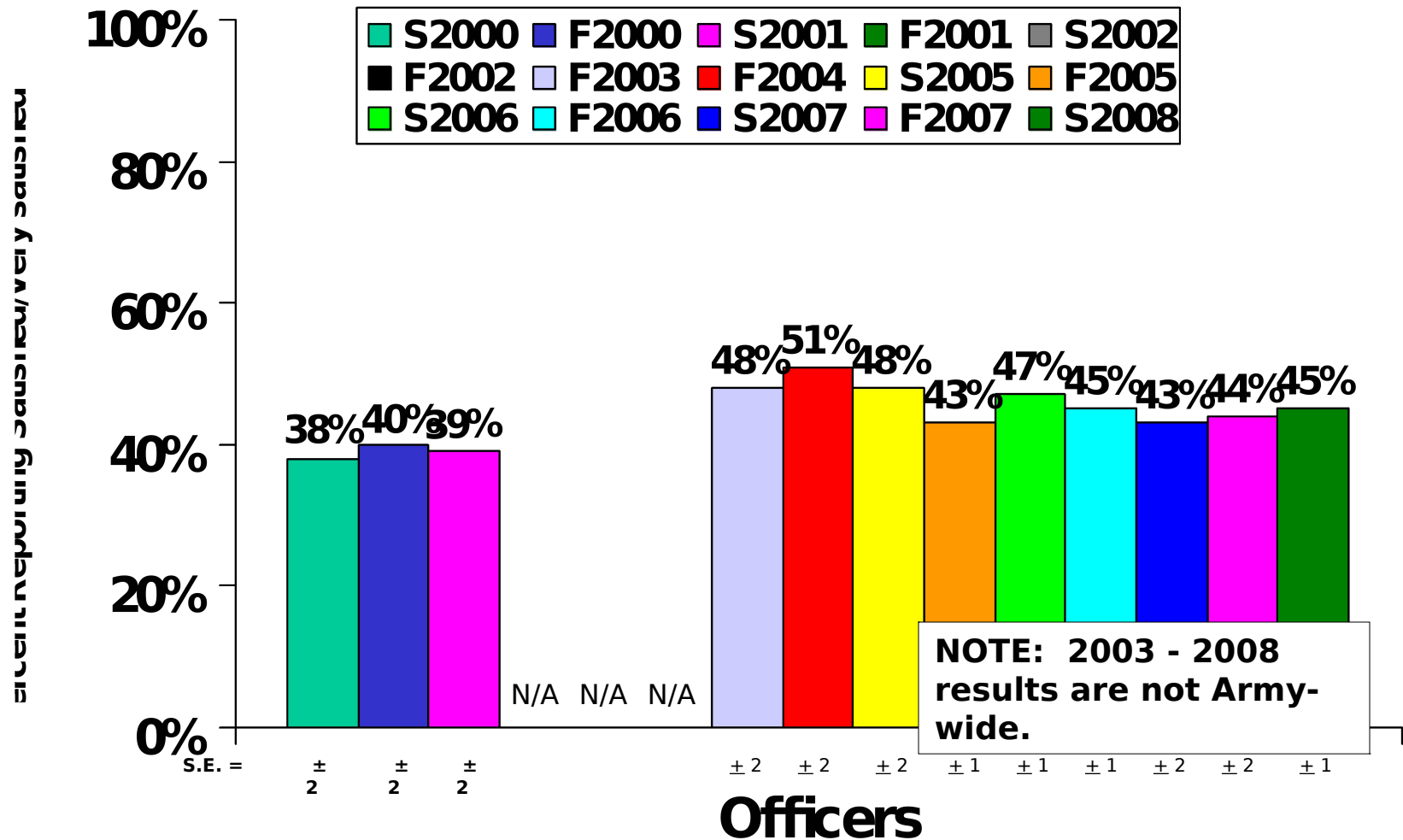


## Key Findings - 4

- 80% of officers and 69% of enlisted Soldiers reported in spring 2008 that their spouse is “Fairly/Very supportive” of their making a career of the Army” (Slides 16-18).
  - Among officers, the difference between 80% in spring 2008 and 83% in fall 2003 and fall 2004 is not statistically significant.
  - The average level among officers from fall 2001 through fall 2007 is 80%.
  - Among enlisted Soldiers, the levels of perception of spouse support have remained steady since fall 2001.
  - The average level among enlisted Soldiers from fall 2001 through fall 2007 is 69%.
- Slides 19-26 provide the spring 2008 results by rank groups.

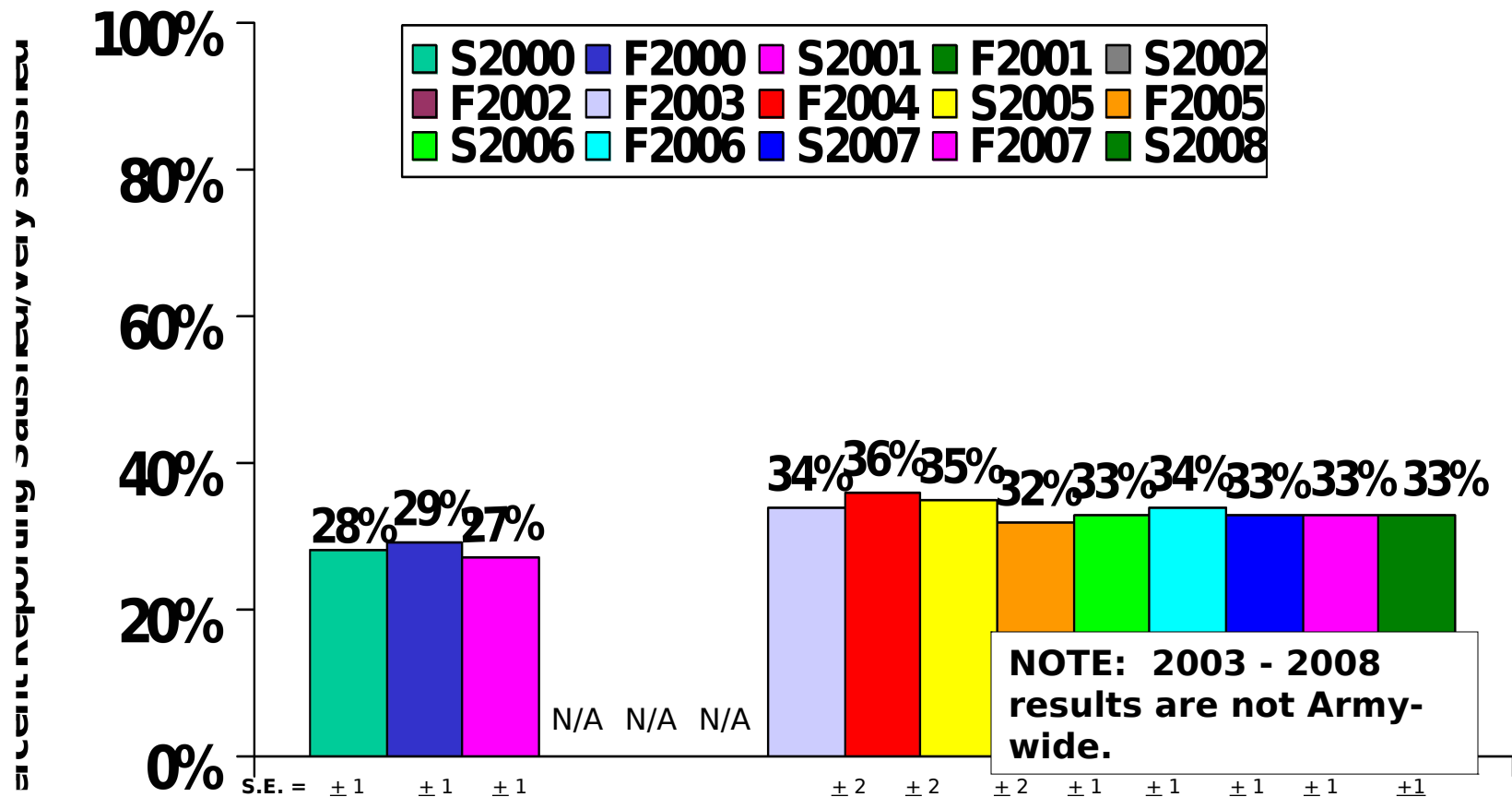


# “How satisfied are you with the support and concern the Army has for you?”





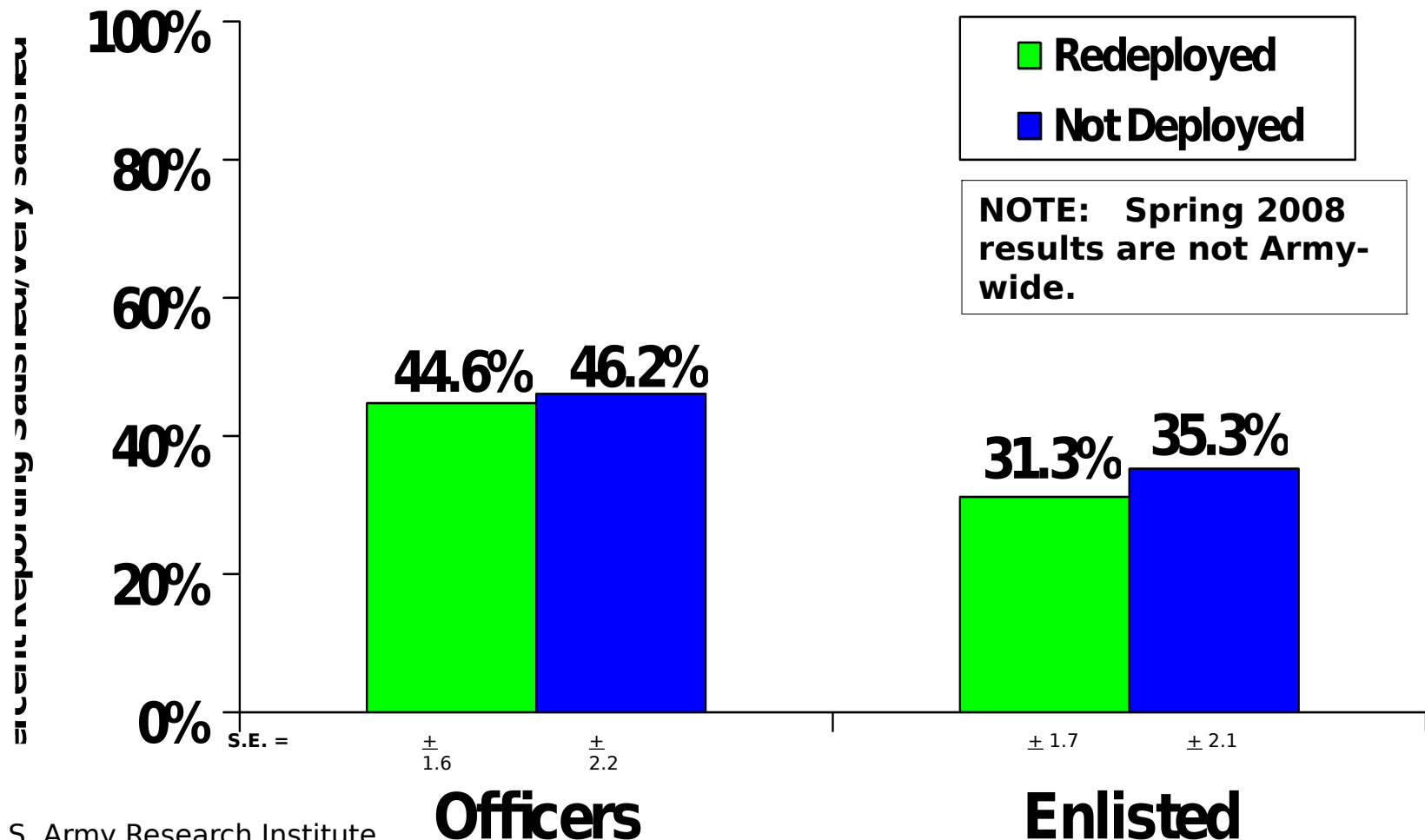
# “How satisfied are you with the support and concern the Army has for you?”



## Enlisted



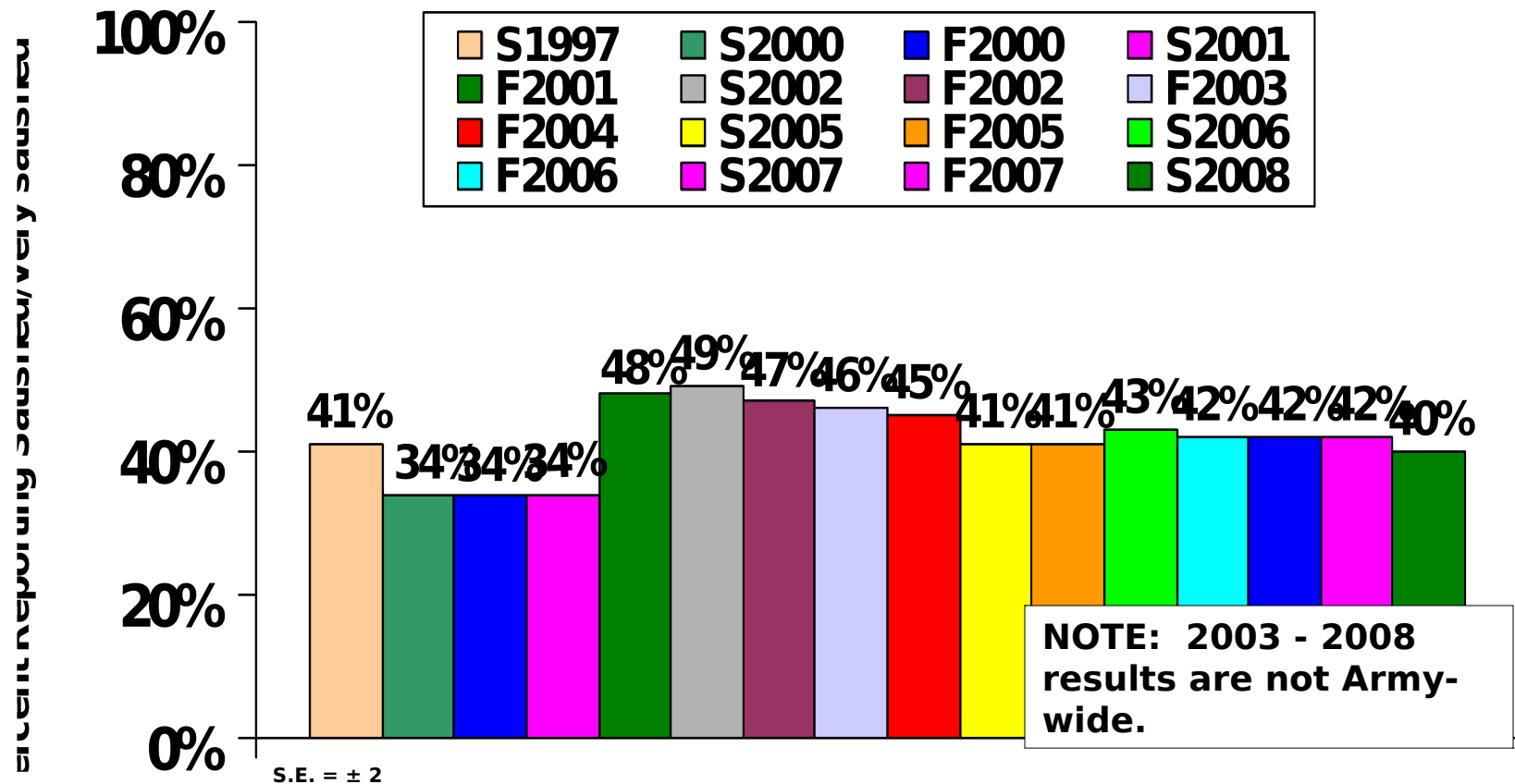
# “How satisfied are you with the support and concern the Army has for you?”





# **“How satisfied are you with the support and concern the Army has for your family?”**

*Of those who have dependent family members...*

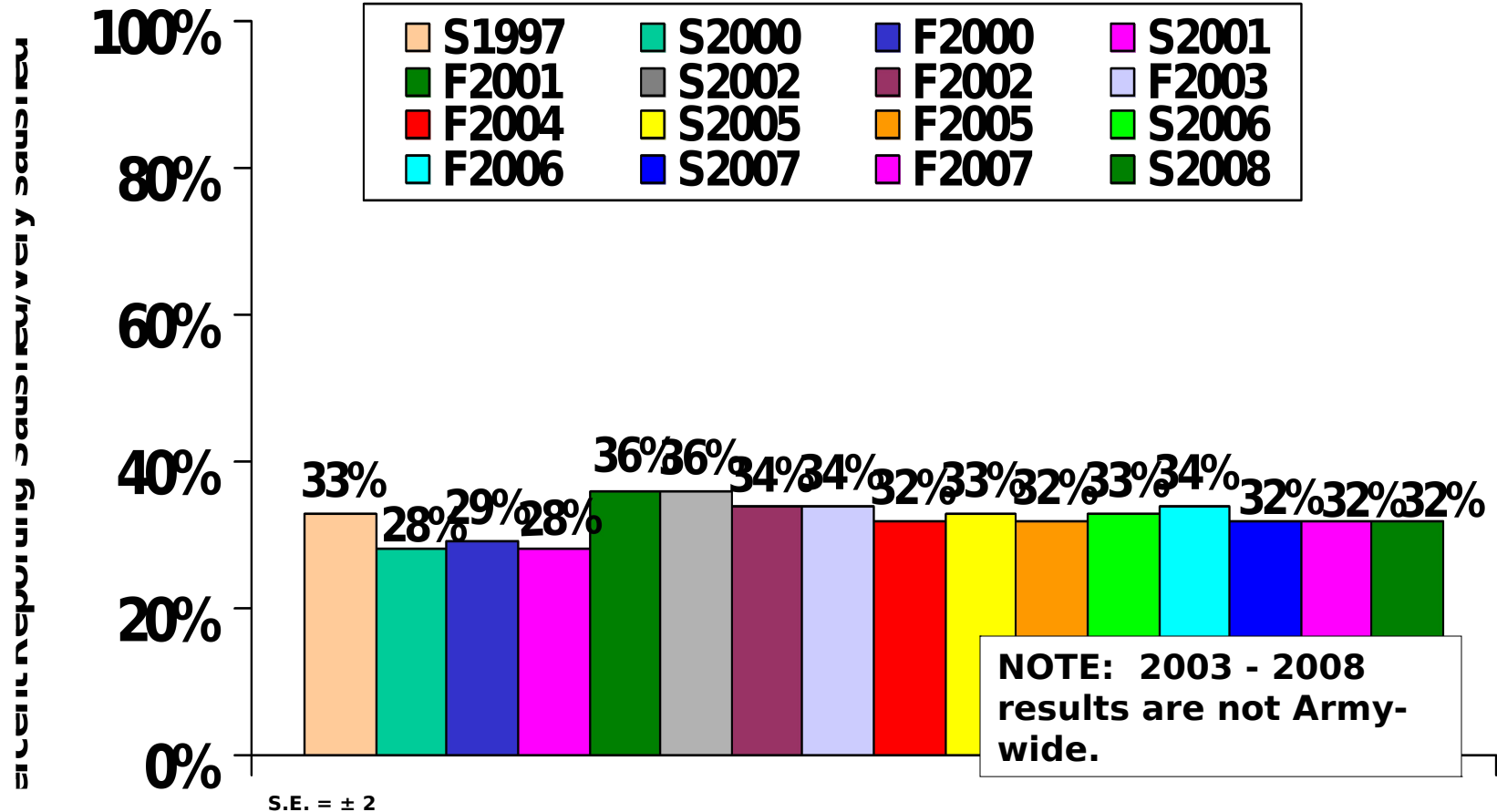


## **Officers**



# **“How satisfied are you with the support and concern the Army has for your family?”**

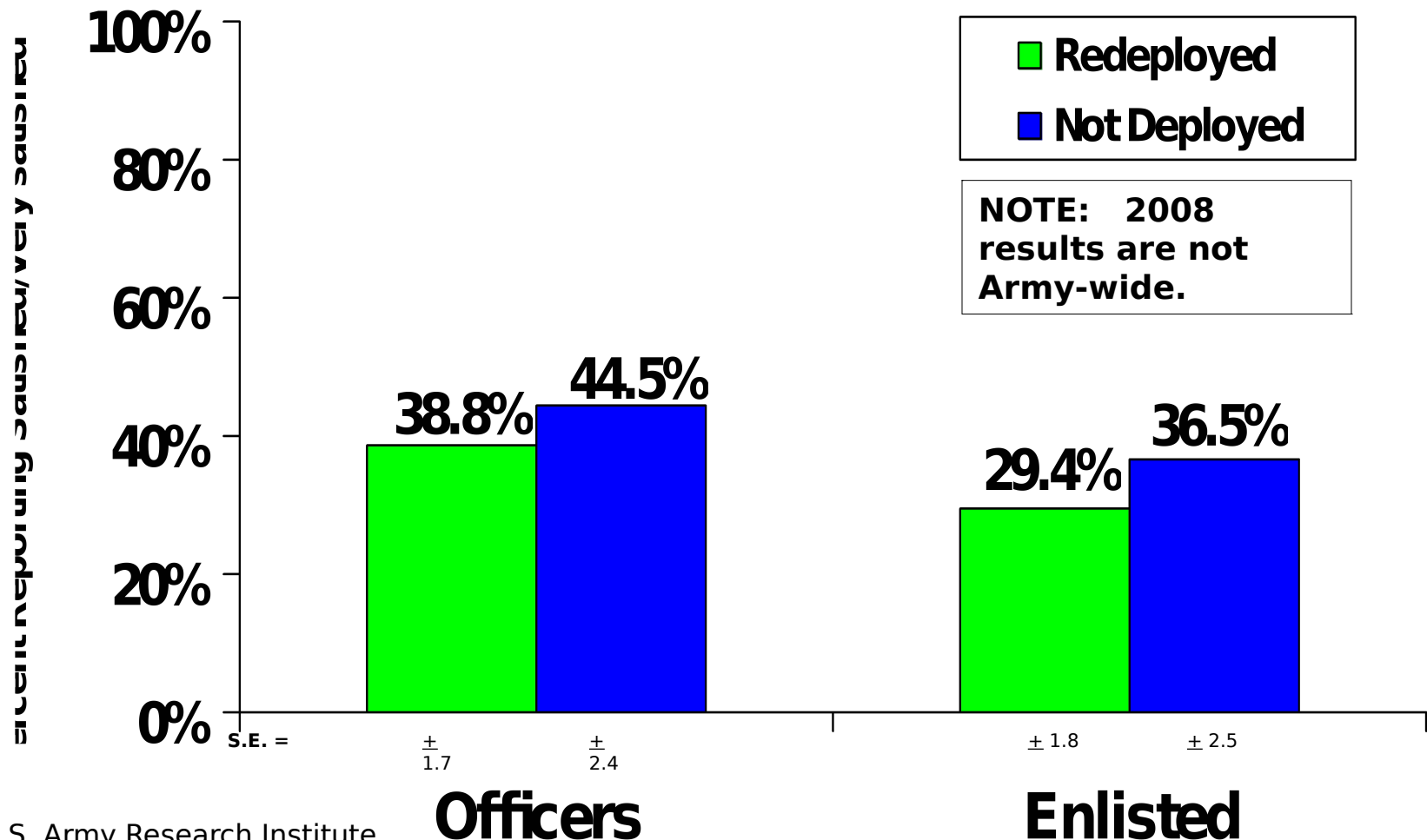
*Of those who have dependent family members...*



## **Enlisted**



# “How satisfied are you with the support and concern the Army has for your family?”

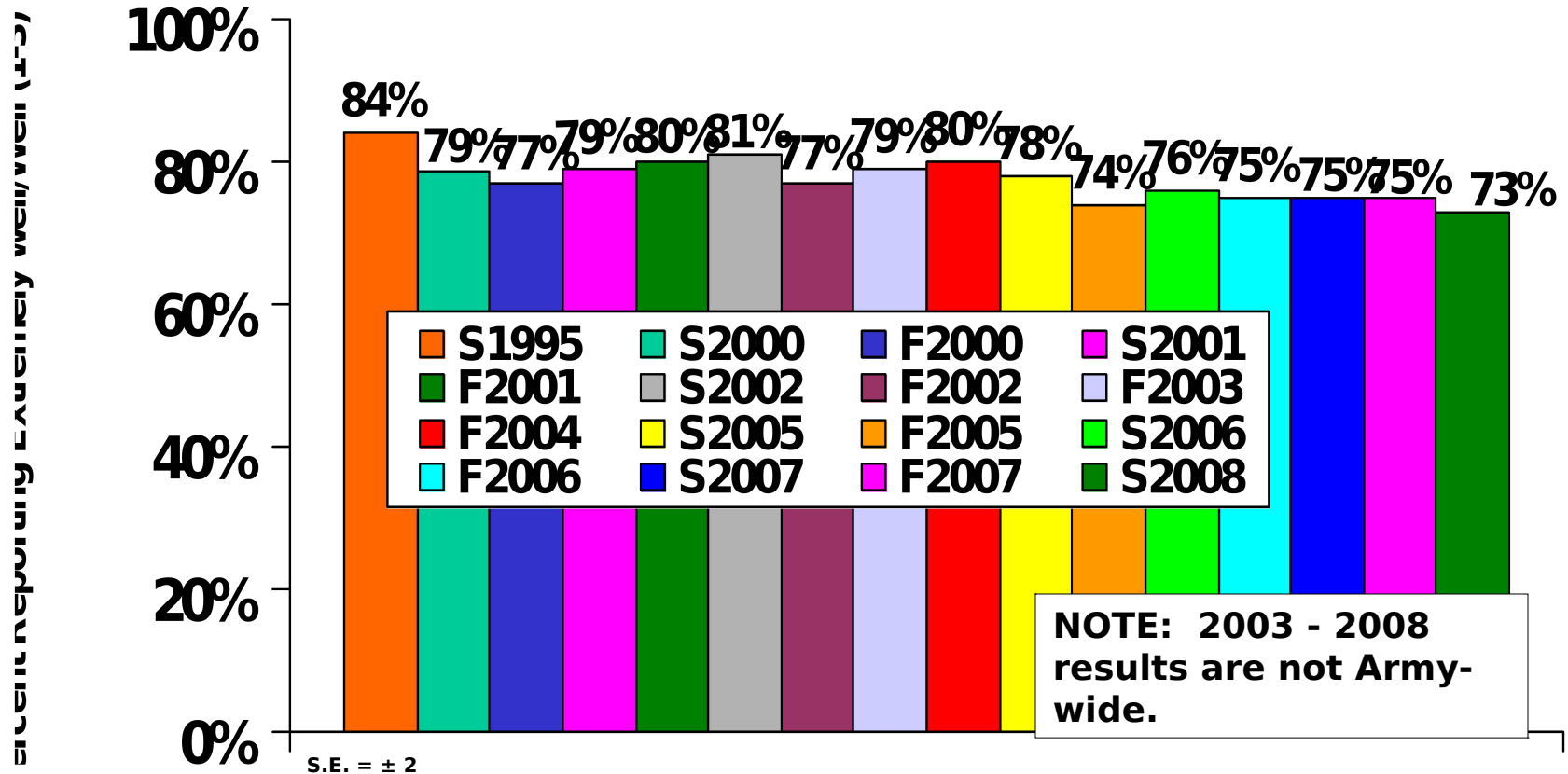






# **"In general, how well has your family adjusted to the demands of being an 'Army family'?"**

*Of those who are currently married...*

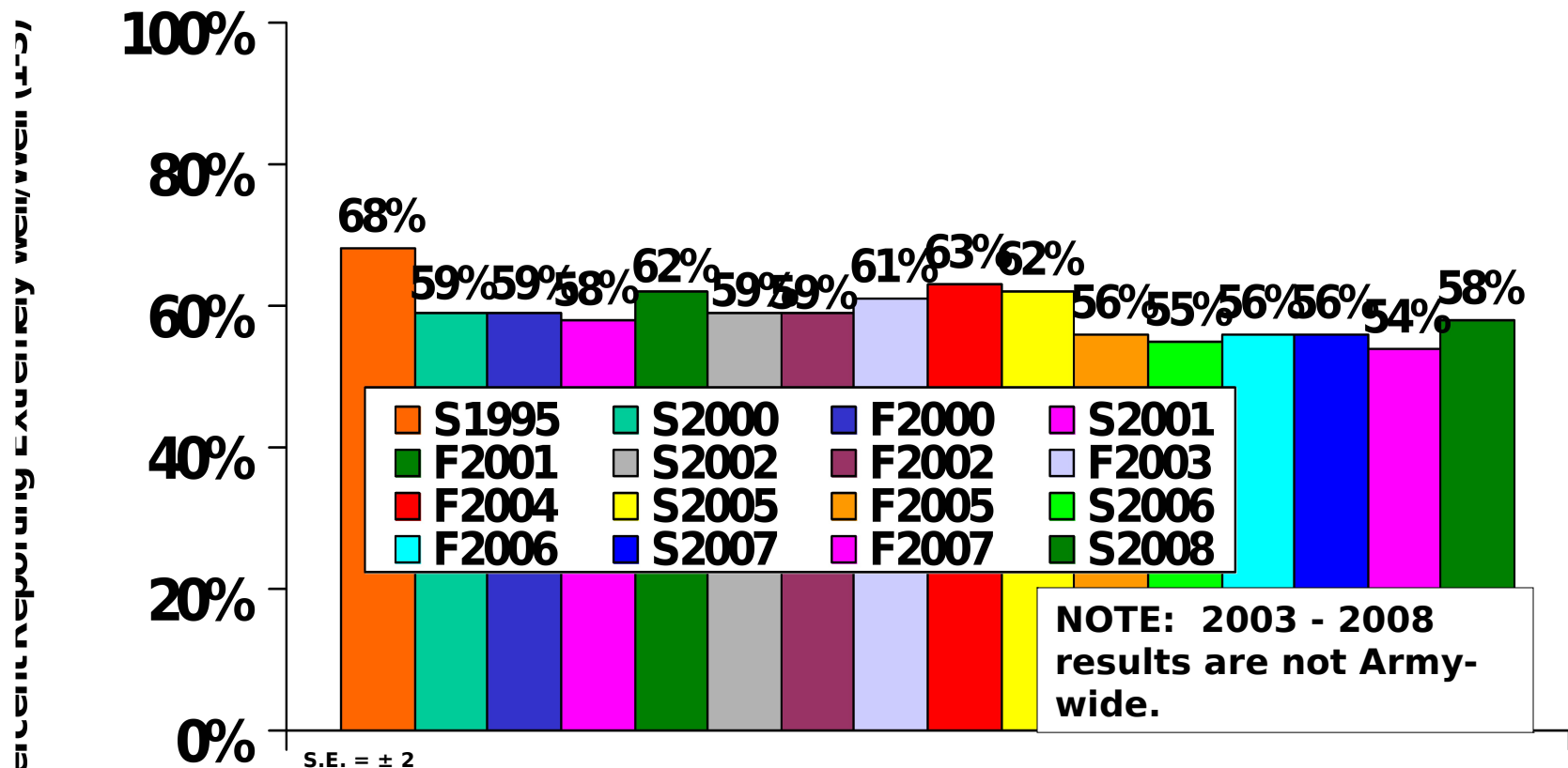


## **Officers**



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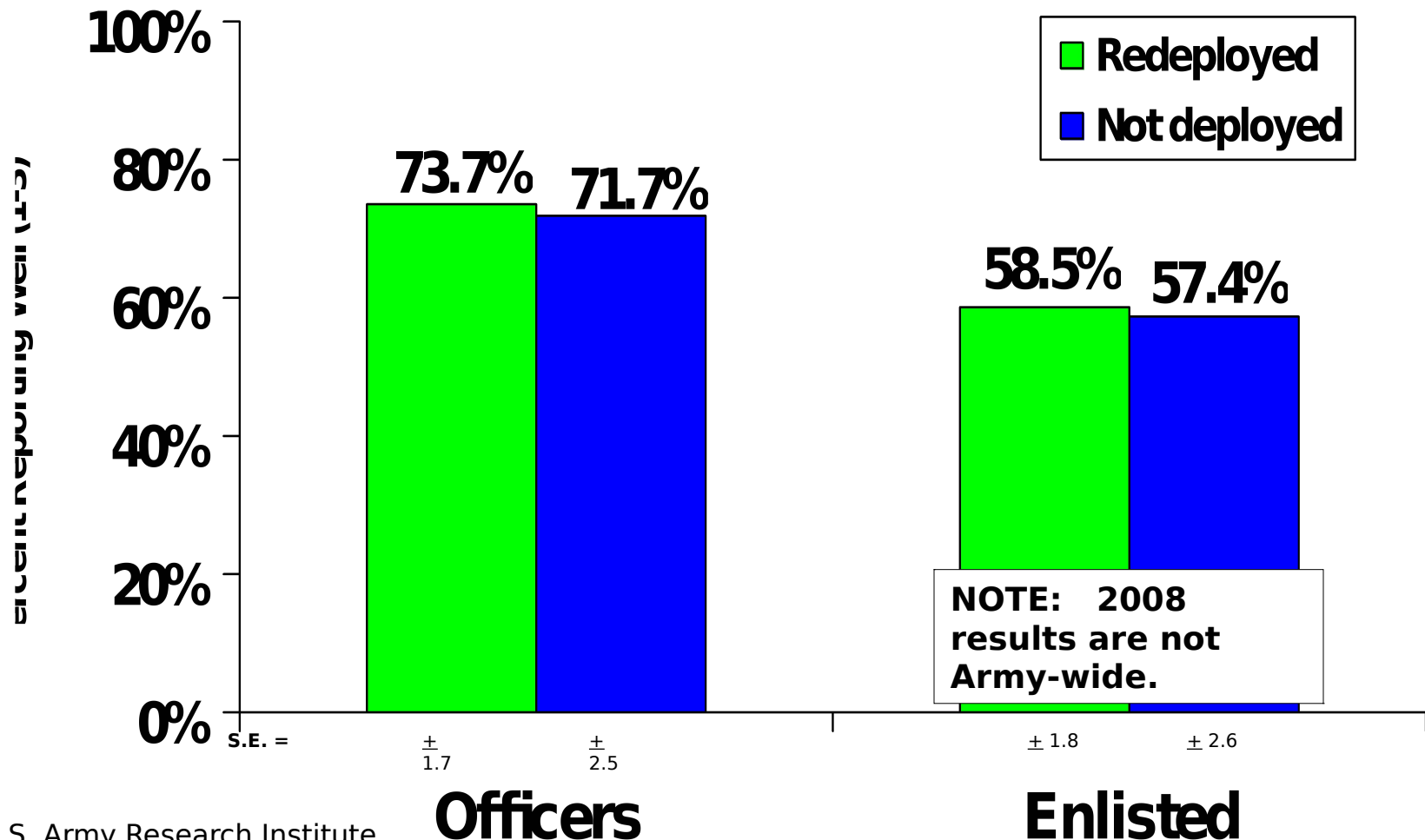
*Of those who are currently married...*



## **Enlisted**



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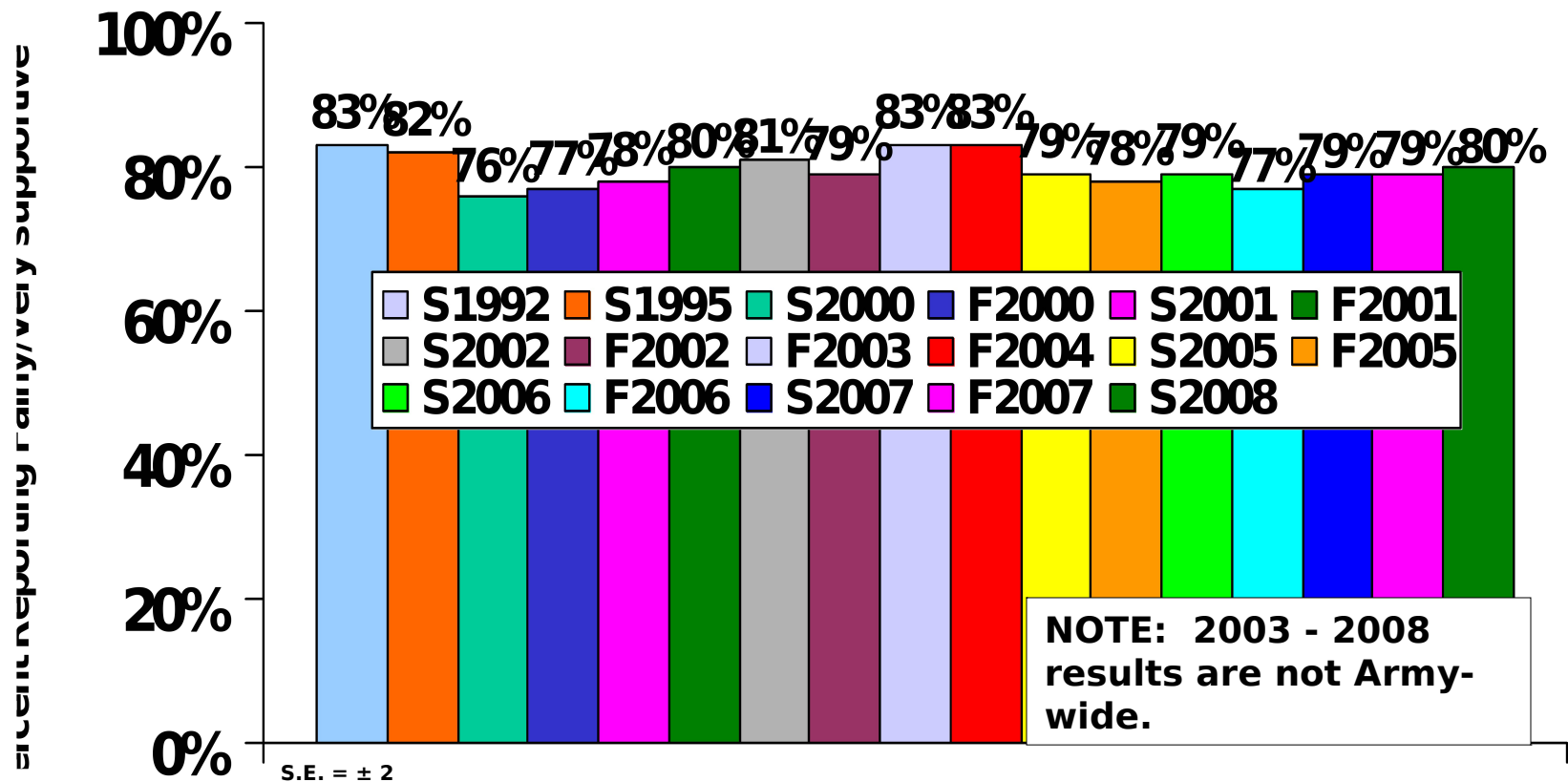




# "How supportive is your spouse of you making a career of the Army?"



*Of those who are currently married...*

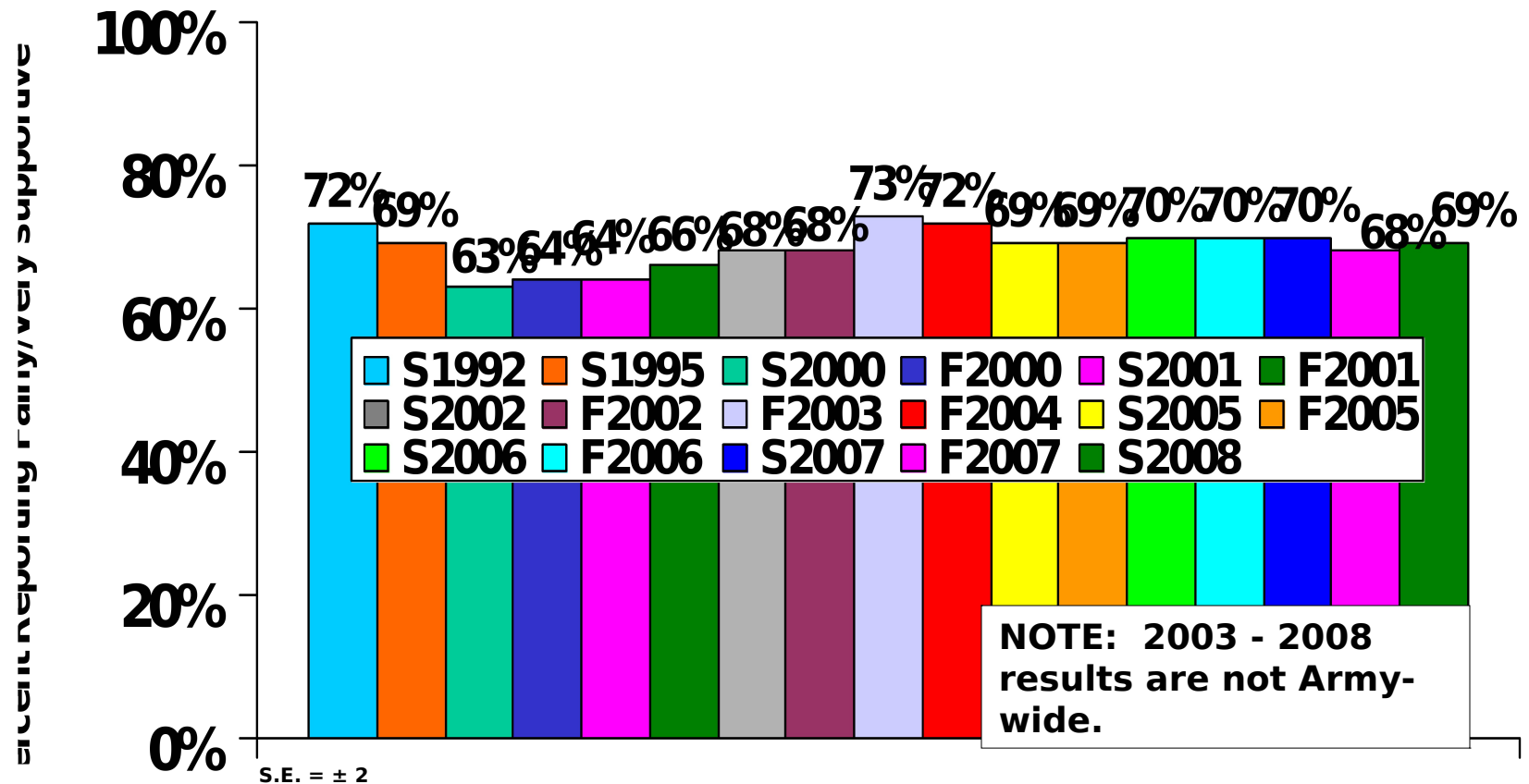




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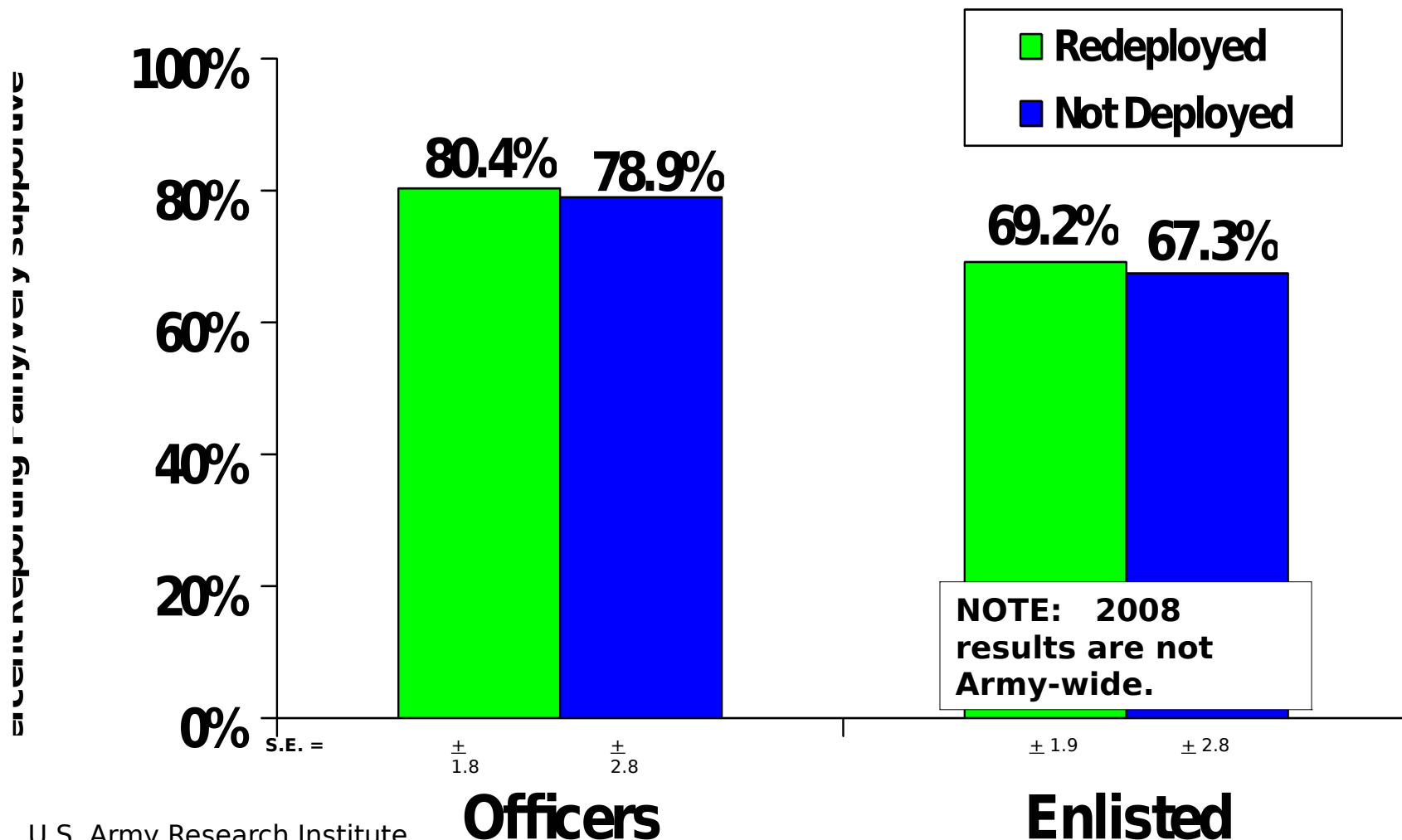
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## Enlisted

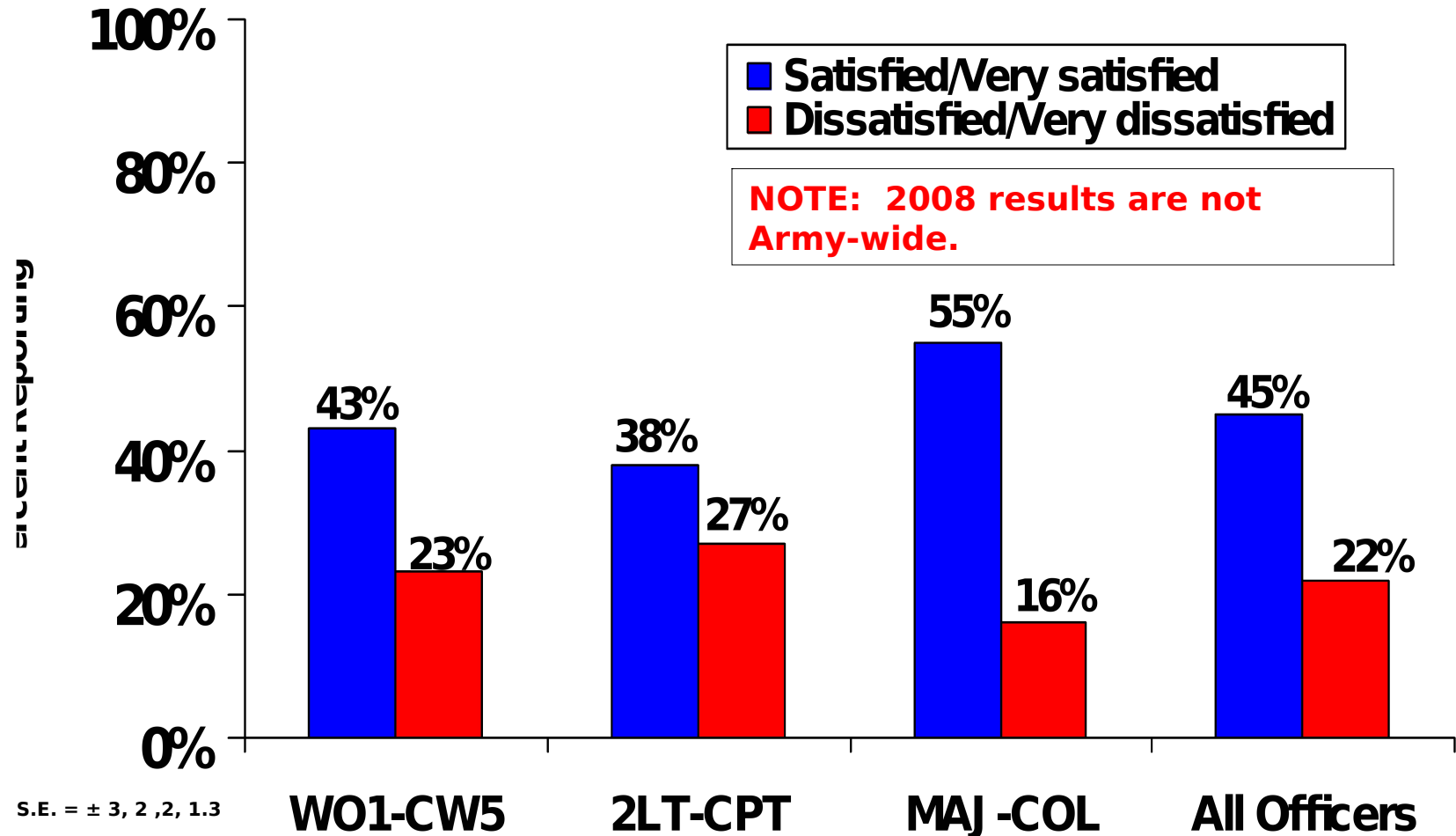


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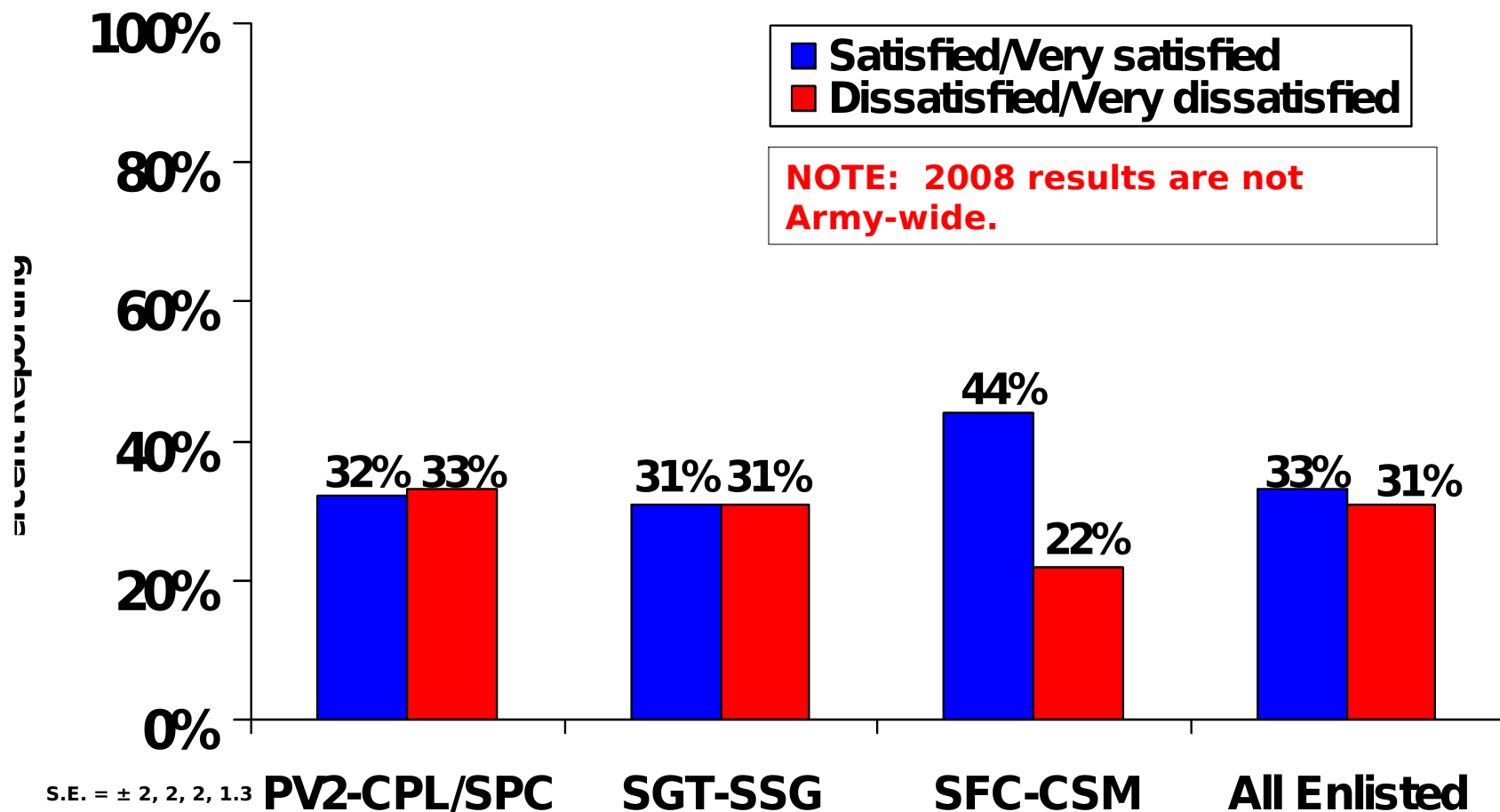


# “How satisfied are you with the support and concern the Army has for you?”





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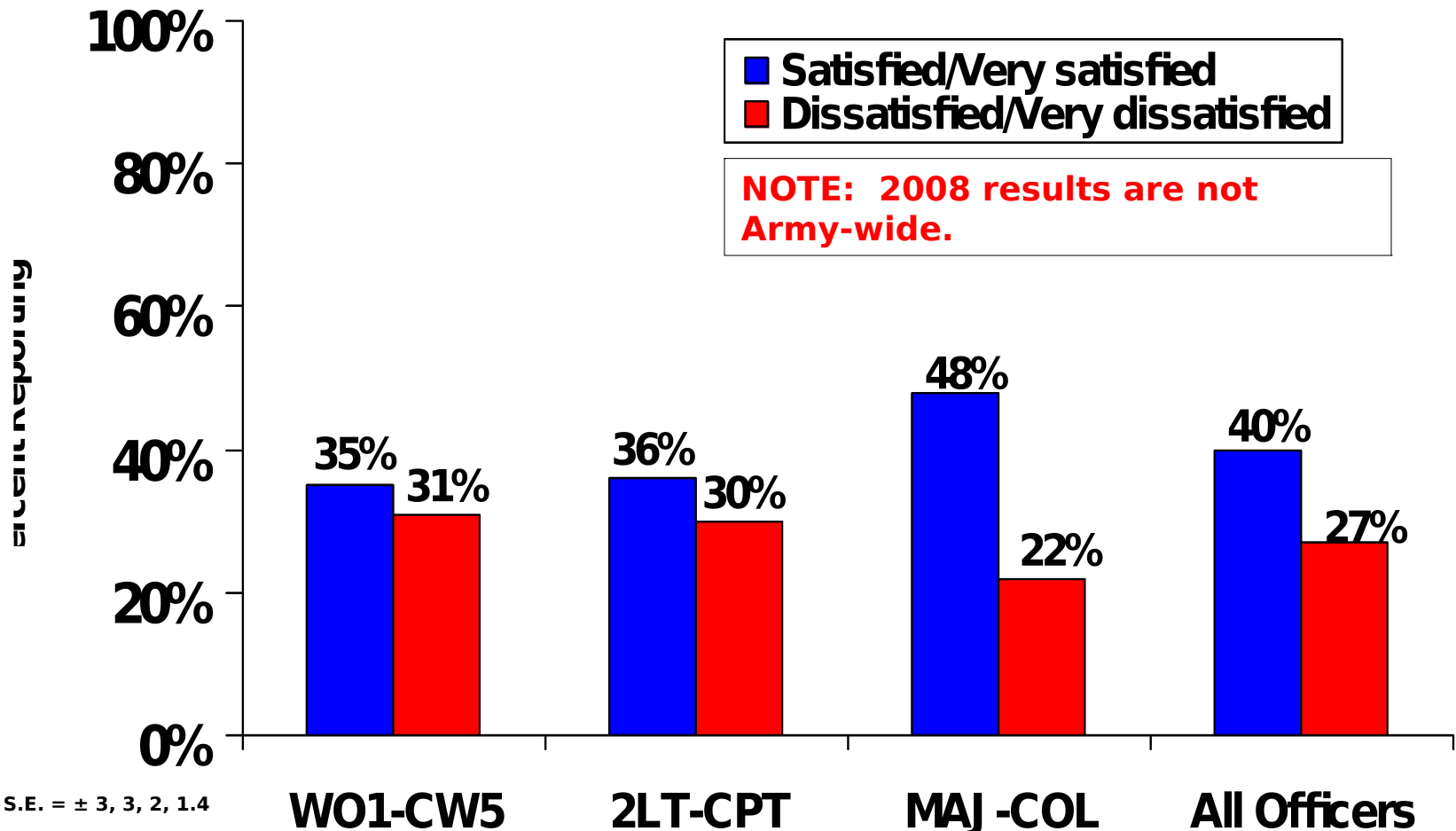




# “How satisfied are you with the support and concern the Army has for your family?”



*Of those who have dependent family members...*



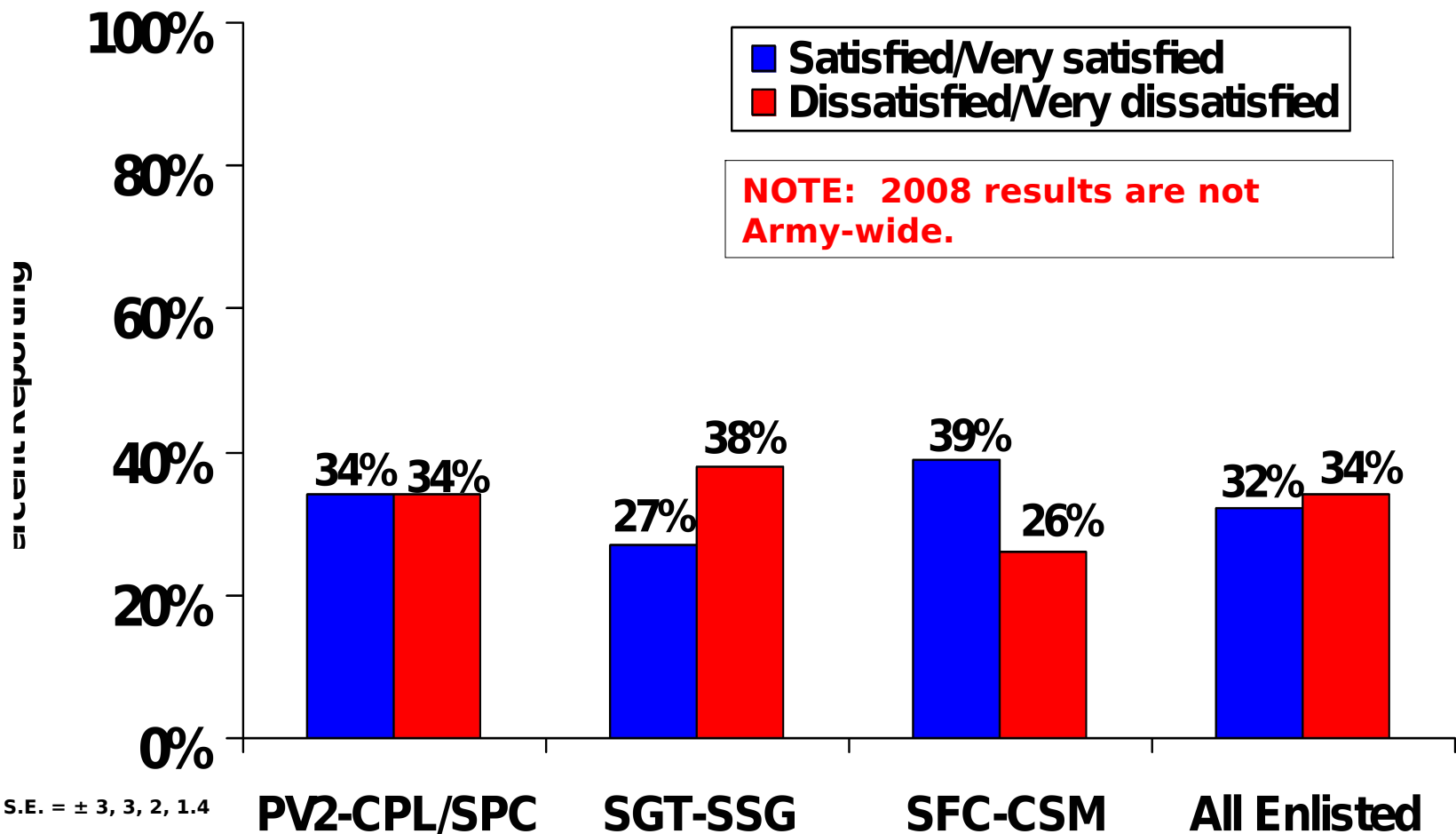
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*Of those who have dependent family members...*

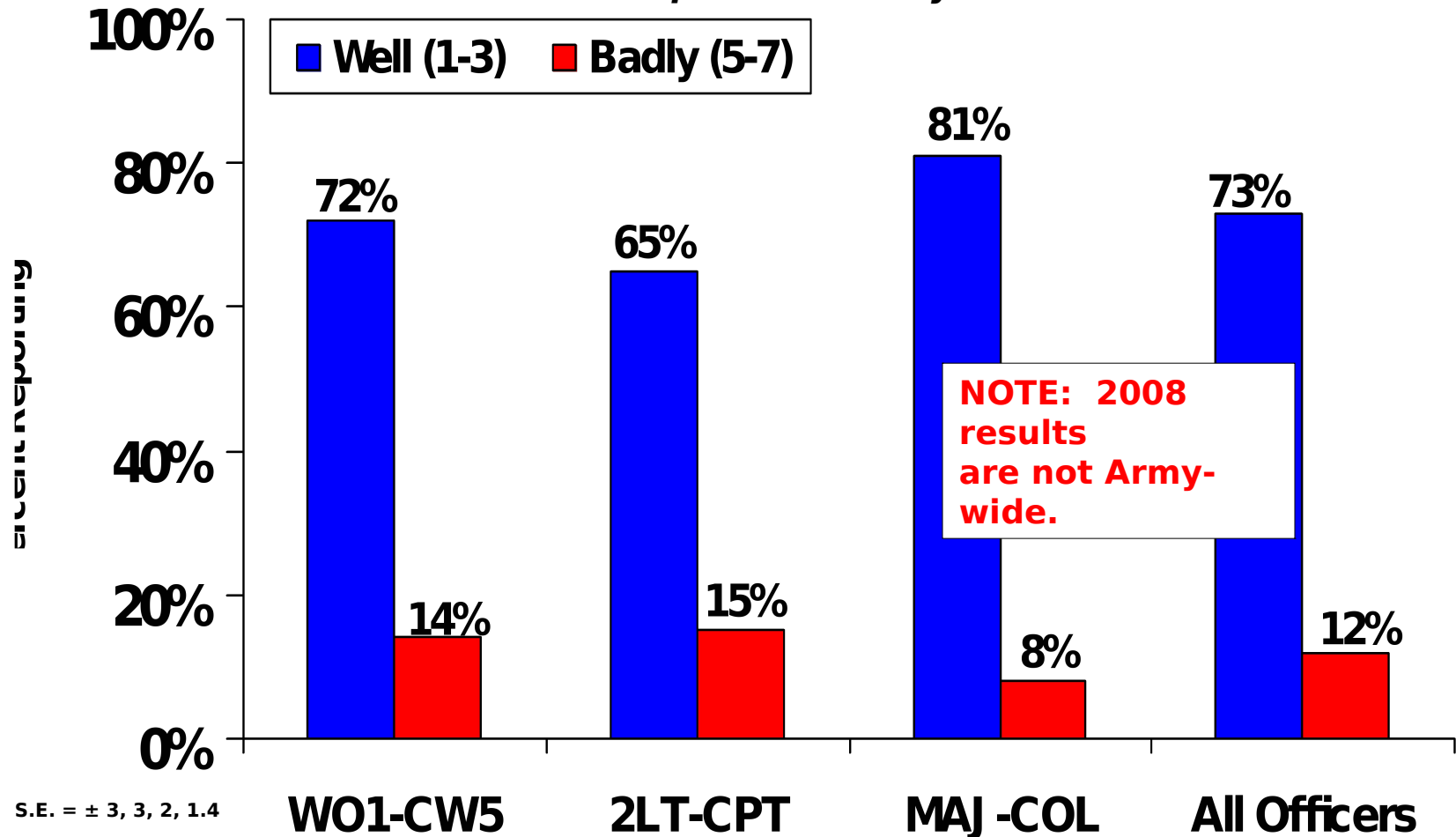




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*Of those who have dependent family members...*

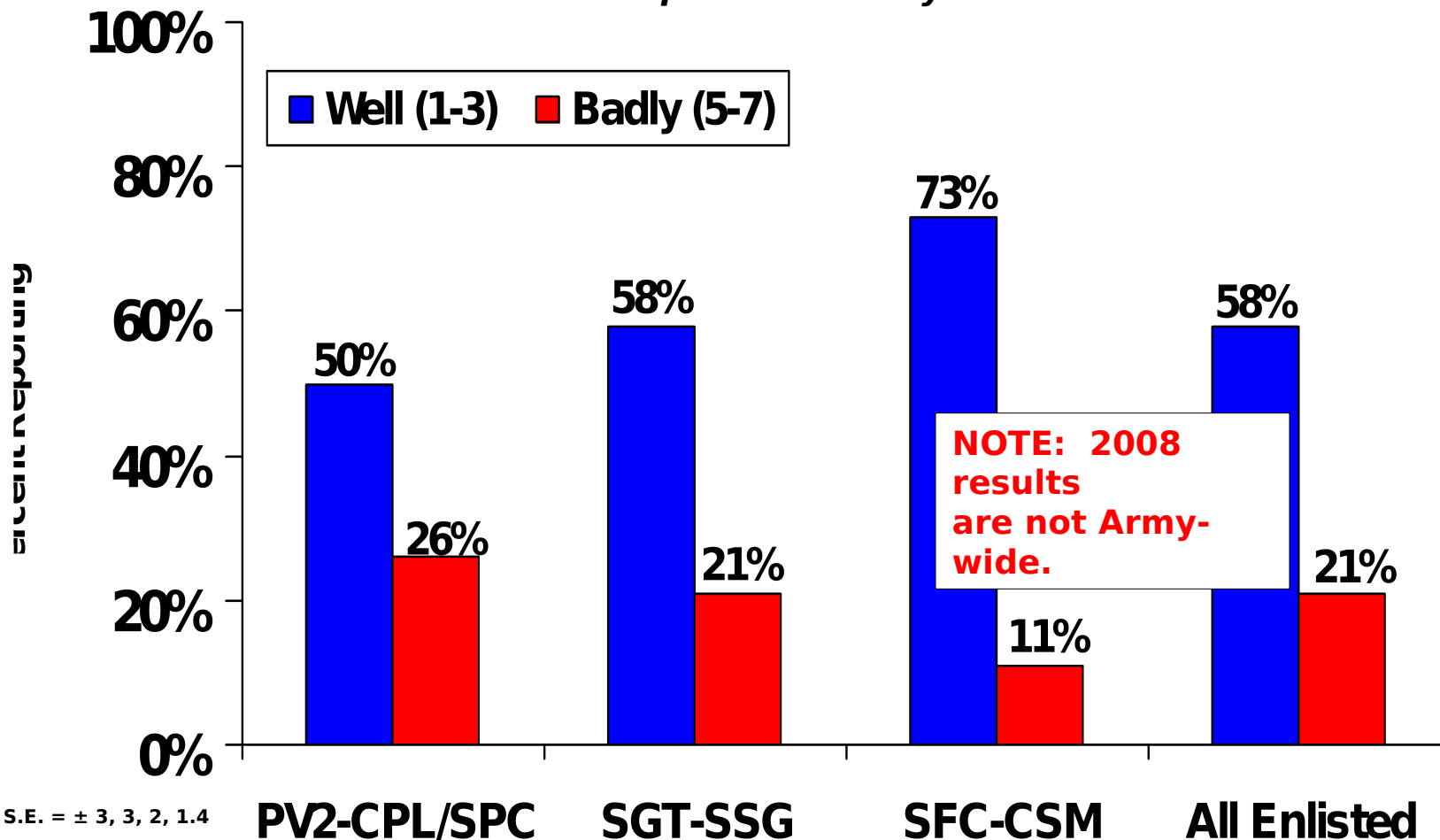




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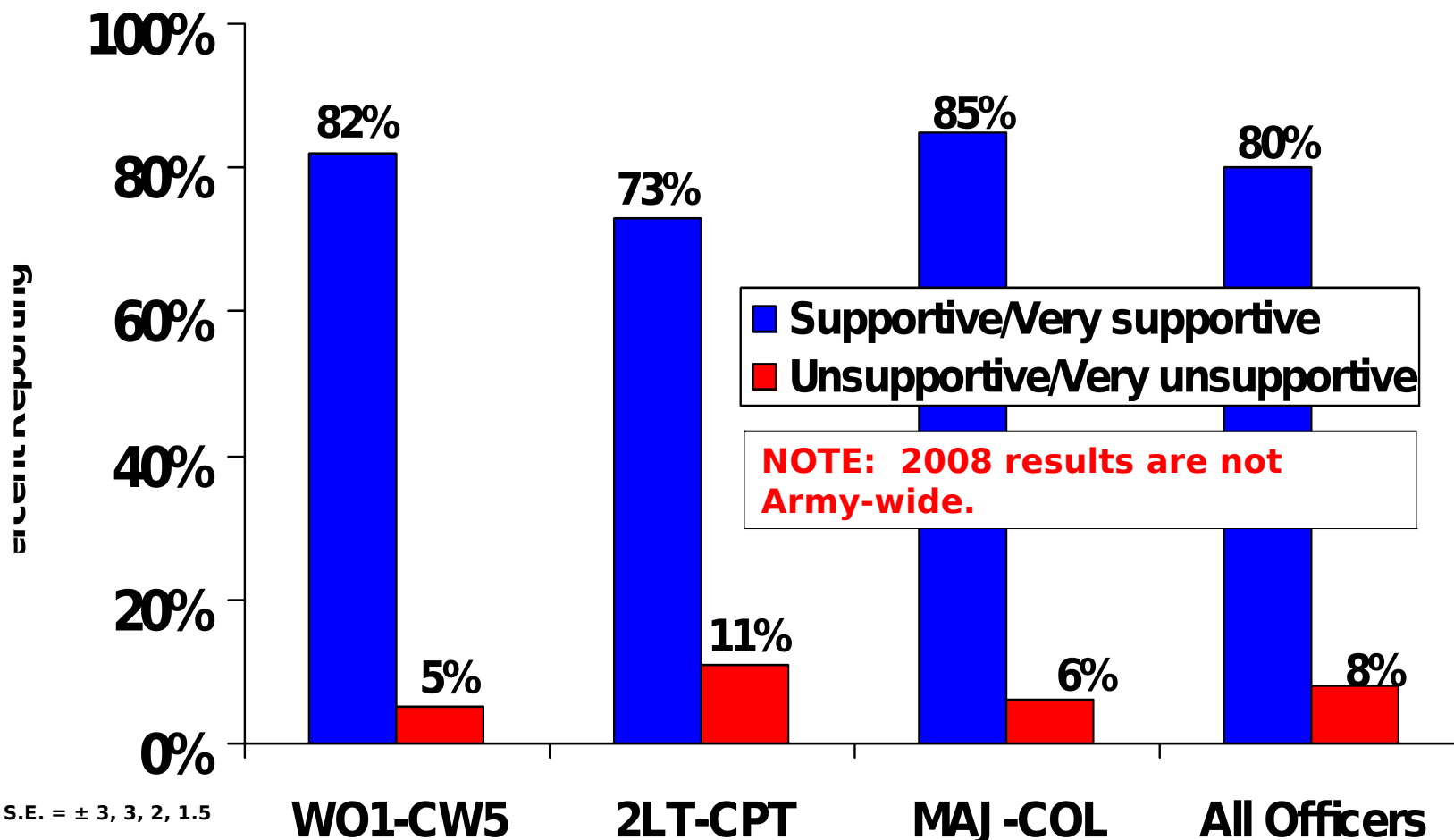




# “How supportive is your spouse of you making a career of the Army?”



*Of those who have dependent family members...*

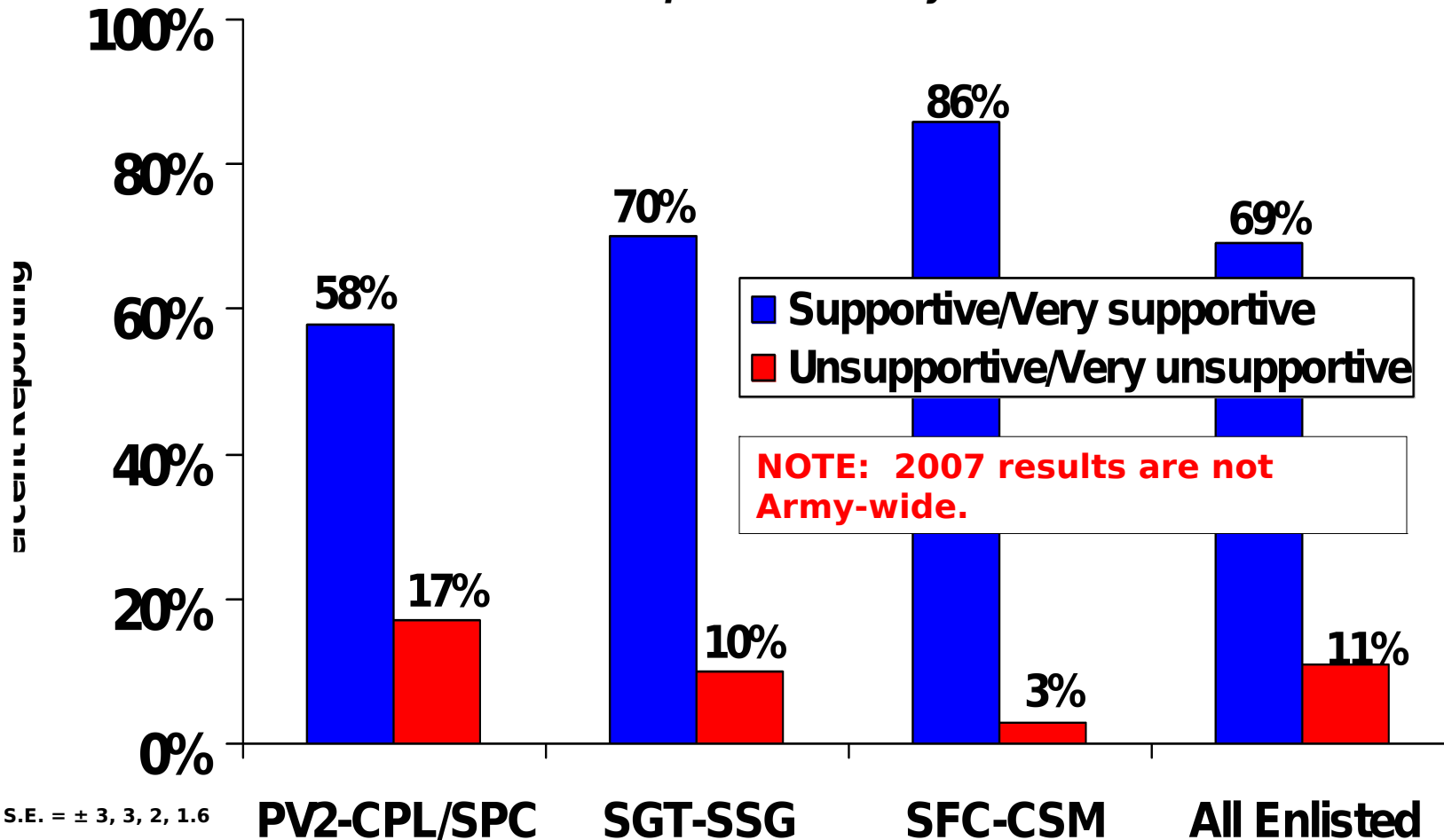




# “How supportive is your spouse of you making a career of the Army?”



*Of those who have dependent family members...*





## Spring 2008 Sample Survey of Military Personnel



Army offices and agencies submit questions on topics to be addressed by the *Sample Survey of Military Personnel (SSMP)*. The population for the SSMP consists of all permanent party, Active Army personnel (commissioned officers, warrant officers, and enlisted Soldiers [excluding all PV1 and those PV2 Soldiers in Europe and Korea]). Samples of about 10% of officers and 2-3% of enlisted Soldiers are drawn using the final 1 or 2 digits of Soldiers' social security numbers. Since spring 1992, the databases have included approximately 4,000 -5,000 or more each for officers and enlisted Soldiers.

The *Spring 2008 SSMP* was conducted as an online Web survey from 13 April through 12 August among officers (2LT-COL, WO1-CW5) and senior-level enlisted Soldiers (SSG-CSM) who were not currently deployed in the war theaters for Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) and Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF). Because of low response rates to Web surveys among junior-level enlisted Soldiers (PV2-SGT), a traditional paper/pencil questionnaire was used at 34 CONUS installations, including Hawaii and Alaska.

In addition to not surveying Soldiers deployed to war theaters, the traditional paper-pencil survey was not targeted for Soldiers who recently returned from a war theater, such as members of the 82nd Airborne Division. The survey also was not targeted for Soldiers who were preparing to be deployed soon to a war theater, such as the 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division.

Completed responses were received from 5,588 officers and 5,791 enlisted Soldiers in the Active Army. The results for the *Spring 2008 SSMP* were weighted up to a subset of the Active Army strength of 520,548 as of 30 April 2008. Not included in the weighted strength totals were those Soldiers who were deployed for OIF and OEF (based on records maintained by 3rd PERSCOM), yielding a weighted subset strength of 356,507.

Inquiries for additional information should be directed to: Chief, Army Personnel Survey Office, U.S. Army Research Institute for the Behavioral and Social Sciences, 2511 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA 22202-4302, commercial (703) 602-7858 or email [APL-APSO@hqda.army.mil](mailto:APL-APSO@hqda.army.mil)  
Army Personnel Survey Office